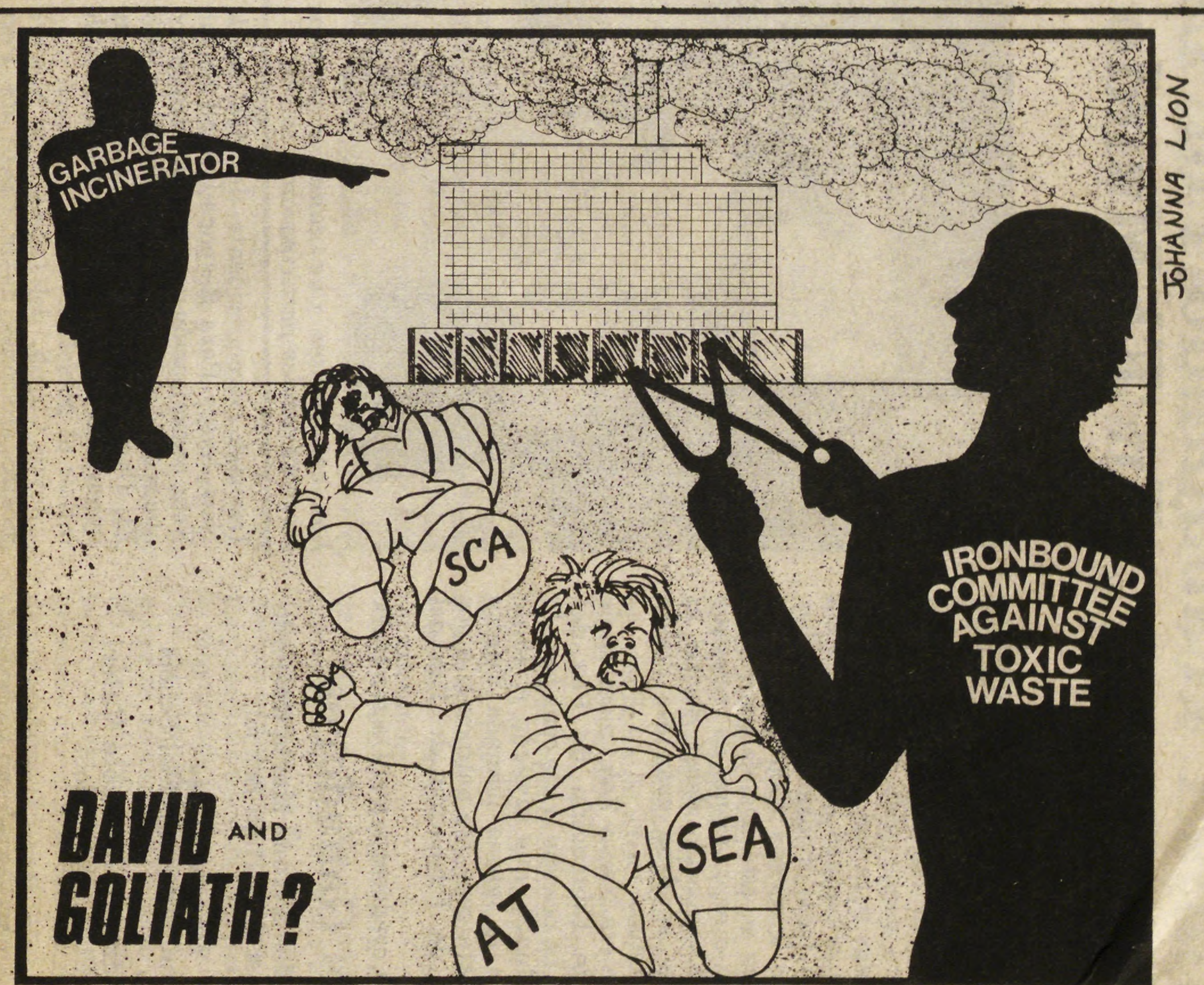
FREE GRATIS

TRI-LINGUAL

IRONBOUND VOICES

Vol. 8 No. 8 Jan. 1986



Another Victory!

The People Win The Fight Against At Sea Incineration

by Bob Cartwright

Ironbound residents have won the fight against At Sea Incineration! The company recently announced that it was bankrupt.

"I'm convinced that when people organize, they can make a difference," said Vic DeLuca of the **Ironbound Community Corporation**. "It took us a long time, but we beat them."

For 5 years, the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Wastes (ICATW)** fought against the proposal by At Sea Incineration to build a 75 million gallon tank farm in Newark. The tanks would have been filled with the most dangerous chemicals ever created, including: dioxin, PCBs, nerve gases, and pesticide wastes. The 220,000 tons per year of the toxic wastes would have been mixed and processed at the plant in Newark and then taken out to sea to be burned. The federal government helped the corporation to build the ships and will now lose millions of dollars.

The fight against At Sea began in 1980, when an engineer, living in Ironbound, accidentally found out about the proposal by reading an article in a chemical engineering journal. The article said that construction was planned for Sept. 1980. Members of the **ICATW** called the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Both government agencies said that they knew nothing about the project. This meant that something fishy was going on because in order for the At Sea corporation to start building the chemical tanks they needed the approval of the state and federal governments.

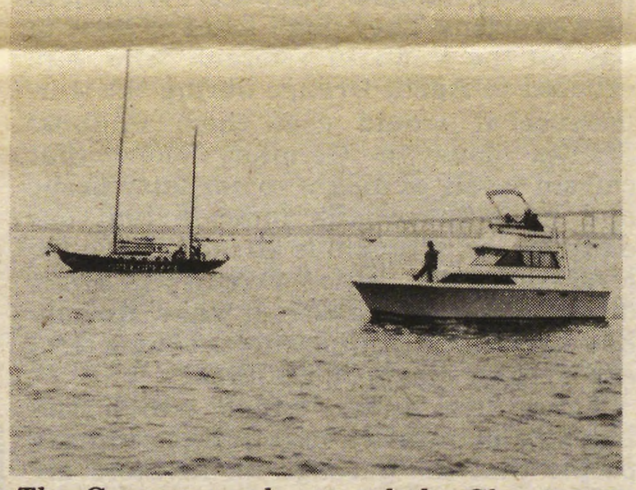
ICATW members then called At Sea directly at their Connecticut office. The company agreed to a meeting. It was held on August 9, 1980, with the Executive Vice President of At Sea - Donald Henry. In addition to people from Ironbound, members of the Committee on Occupational Safety and Health (COSH) also attended. Everyone agreed that the project would be very dangerous for residents of Ironbound and the surrounding area. But now the Ironbound residents had more information about the project.

Members of the **ICATW** then went to work. "When we started, I had no idea that so many people and organizations would take a stand on the issue," said Arnold Cohen of the **ICATW**. "But, when we did the work, and gave people the right information, they decided to join in the fight."

"We knew more about their proposal than anyone else. A few years ago, Bob Cartwright from the **ICATW** debated an executive from At Sea at an editorial board meeting of the Asbury Park Press. Bob won the debate," Mr. Cohen said. "The research we did and the amount we knew about At Sea's plan brought us respect from the health officers, public officials, and the press, as well as from people in Ironbound and surrounding towns. We knew what questions to ask, and when we were getting the run around. We impressed the radio and television talk show people. We knew more about At Sea than anyone else."

The first step in organizing was to set up a subcommittee of COSH to help with the fight. COSH was a statewide organization, so this would help get people from all over the state involved in fighting At Sea.

During November and December, forums about At Sea's plan were held in Newark and Elizabeth. An Elizabeth fireman got involved and explained that if a fire broke out at the plant, none of the fire departments in the area would be able to put it out. A truck driver explained that the drivers are often forced to work a lot of overtime, so there would be an increased danger from truck accidents involving toxic wastes being brought to the plant.



The Greenpeace boat and the Clearwater boat joined many private boats from the Bayonne Yacht Club, protesting At Sea's plan to build a toxic waste plant in Newark.

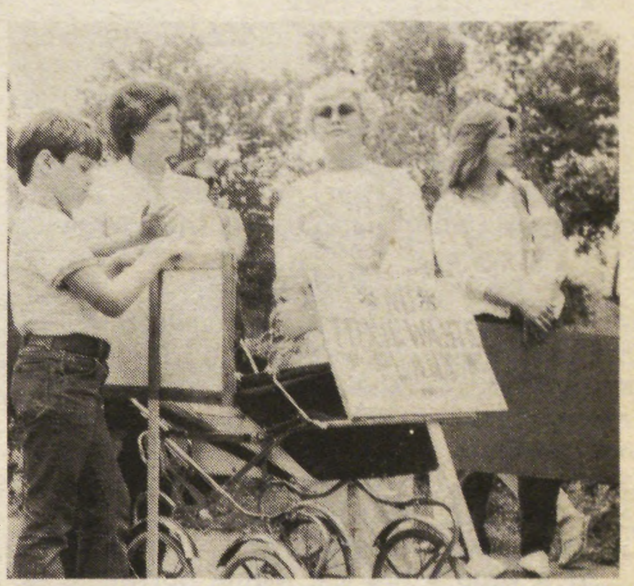
"Each person contributed," said Arnold Cohen. "Firemen, truck drivers, nurses, teachers, priests, nuns and ministers, secretaries, and retired people all helped us to win this fight."

Soon afterward, newspaper articles about At Sea appeared in the Star Ledger and the Asbury Park Press.

The Health Officers of Hudson County took a stand against the proposal in 1981. On the other hand, the Essex County Health Officers never spoke out. The Hudson County Health Officers also helped in getting the mayors, city councilpersons, and freeholders in Hudson County to take a stand against At Sea.

The **ICATW** sent out a package of information to thousands of New Jersey residents letting them know the dangers of At Sea's proposal.

By the end of 1981, the Ironbound Health Project, Coalition for a United Elizabeth, Rutgers Law School Environmental Law Clinic, the Environmental Law Council, N.J. Public Interest Research Group, and the Essex County Sea Alliance had all gotten involved. They wrote letters to the editors of many newspapers, distributed 10,000 copies of the At Sea Fact Sheet, got endorsements from many other groups including the Essex County Medical Society, and the Cedar Grove Natural Resources Advisory Commitee. They developed a button which was printed and distributed throughout the United States. This raised some money to do **more** work. T shirts were also printed and sold.



Hundreds of people, young and old, joined in 'Revival for Survival', a day of protest to At Sea's plans. The day began with a parade up the main street of Bayonne.

On April 21, 1981, a demonstration was held at the Chemical Control site in Elizabeth, on the anniversary of the huge toxic waste explosion there. About 200 people from all over New Jersey attended. This also got the issues of At Sea into the newspapers and on TV.

On June 10, 1981, At Sea called a meeting at the Club Espana, in Ironbound, that was supposed to be private and by invitation only. Ironbound residents were angry that they were not invited. All of the politicians were invited. Ironbound residents and their supporters held a demonstration outside the hall. Then, **everyone** was allowed in. This turned the meeting around. Instead of supporting At Sea, the politicians were forced to speak out against the proposal.

The issue really began to heat up in July, 1982, when the Bayonne Coalition Against Toxic Sites joined the fight against AT Sea. Members of the group joined Ironbound residents at 3 public hearings about the At Sea plans. Thousands of people spoke out against the At Sea proposal. But, the government was not listening. So, Ironbound residents decided to form their own Siting Commission, hold their own public hearings, and publish their own report with their conclusions about toxic waste facilities like At Sea.

In June of 1983, the **Greater Newark Bay Coalition**, which included the groups fighting At Sea from Jersey City, Bayonne, Newark, Kearny and Elizabeth, organized a huge demonstration. It was called ***Revival for Survival***. It began with hundreds of people marching up the main street of Bayonne in a parade to a park along Newark Bay. Out in the water, Pete Seeger's boat, the Clearwater, and many private boats from the Bayonne Yacht Club joined in the protest. Talented musicians led the crowd in song, and many speakers talked about the dangers of At Sea's plans. Families with children,

Because State environmental officials did not listen to residents concerns, people formed an 'Alternative Siting Commission', which held its own hearings at Bayonne City Hall and issued its own report about where toxic chemical plants should be located.

continued on P.5

Dr. Connett continued:

this incinerator - even though they have no idea how much dioxin is coming out of the stack, how much acid gas is coming out of the stack. These things have no smell. You can't see them. You can't hear or taste them, but they're there.

If you include all the hidden costs, such as disposal of the toxic ash, these incinerators will be very expensive. A Michigan study says it wil cost $105 a ton. This makes it the **most expensive** option for disposing of garbage, but the politicians are telling us that it is the cheapest.

Air Pollution

Now let's discuss the air pollution the incinerators will cause. Without any collection device on the incinerator smokestacks, a 2000 ton a day incinerator will produce up to a tone of hydrochloric acid a day. It will produce 44 pounds of toxic metals, such as lead, a day. It will produce dioxin every day.

At a time when the whole northeast is concerned about acid rain, we will be putting ***more*** acid gases into the environment. At a time when after years of effort, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is finally doing things to get lead out of gasoline, because of the negative effects on childrens' health, we are going to have ***a whole new source for lead pollution*** in the air. At a time when communities like Times Beach and Ironbound are desperately trying to get dioxin out of their soil, we are going to have **a brand new source of dioxin.**

The chemistry involved in this is really very basic. Metals in equals metals out. *These are basic elements, and they can't be destroyed.* So if you put lead into an incinerator, it will come out the smokestack. The same with other metals like cadmium, arsenic, etc. If you have a good incinerator, these heavy metals will be part of the ash. If you have a terrible incinerator, these metals will be put into the air.

Incidentally, they have already had cases of whole bottles of mercury being thrown in with ordinary garbage.

Now scientists already know that lead poisoning affects the behavior of children. It can cause permanent brain damage. It can cause hyperactivity, and other kinds of behavior problems. It causes children to fail in school.

Dioxin

As far as dioxin goes, the industry tries to persuade people that the amount of dioxin coming out of an incinerator is **minute**, very very tiny. The problem is that even more minute amounts of dioxin do very nasty things to animals - cause cancer, birth defects, or even kill them.

How toxic is dioxin for humans? You have to ignore a lot of studies which are done by scientists working for industry. Many times, if the figures show that the chemicals will harm someone, they won't release them. The same is true for studies done for the Environmental Protection Agency (otherwise known as the Industrial Protection Agency). Industry and government are saying dioxin is not a problem for humans. They don't **want** it to be a problem. *They don't want to have to pay off the Vietnam veterans,* who were exposed to Agent Orange during the war, because it would cost them billions. Studies done in Germany show that current levels of dioxin in our fatty tissue and in mothers milk indicate that our daily intake of dioxin is already above the level considered "safe." Dioxin will affect different people in different ways. Nobody has studied the chronic effects of long term exposure to dioxin in children.

There are many tricks which the industry uses to try to convince ordinary people that the garbage incinerators are safe. Sometimes they use studies which are old, and the new studies show just the opposite. Sometimes they use faulty numbers, for example, taking the lowest rate of chemicals given out at an incinerator (emission rates), instead of the average rate, and basing their estimates on that.

The industry says that the higher the temperature, the less dioxin is produced. The exact opposite has been shown through testing - when the temperature went up, so did the dioxin level.

This is what the New York Academy of Sciences said about controlling dioxin in December, 1984: "In the absence of a clear understanding of the mechanisms of how dioxin is formed, the adequacy of dioxin emission controls is difficult to predict. Simple changes in the temperature, the air mix, and waste stream management, **do not directly alter dioxin emissions** in a predictable fashion." I say that if you cannot predict what happens ***you should not be building these incinerators.***

You can see that I am very emotional about these incinerators. I am very angry about it. But my science is solid, and I will be happy to debate any scientist from the industry, and to admit it if I am wrong. I don't have any vested interest in these incinerators, other than that I cannot stand the idea of doing such an irresponsible thing as building these garbage incinerators everywhere.

Dinner Dance Raises $$$ To Stop Garbage Incinerator

Ironbound residents again showed their fighting spirit by raising more than $2000 to fight the proposed garbage incinerator at a Dinner Dance held Nov. 2. The 2nd Annual Dinner Dance was sponsored by the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste.** People enjoyed the dancing and food, and were happy to demonstrate that no garbage incinerator will ever be built in Ironbound.

The **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste** showed their appreciation to Arnold Cohen, Bob Cartwright, and Madelyn Hoffman for their dedicated efforts in fighting toxic waste problems in Ironbound. Each was given a beautiful plaque.

The **Ironbound Committee** will continue to raise money with a raffle to be held on Jan. 21. Raffle tickets can be obtained at 95 Fleming Ave., or by calling 589-4668.

Committee members recently met with residents of Kearny who are also fighting a garbage incinerator proposed for their town. Pollution from the proposed Kearny incinerator will affect Newark and pollution from Newark will affect Kearny residents. People in both towns will work together to make sure that no garbage incinerators will be built since they are expensive and dangerous, and there are better ways for handling our garbage (recycling and composting).

We, the taxpayers, will be paying hundreds of millions of dollars for any incinerators that are built. Congressmen Rodino and Guarini recently pushed through Congress a measure that protects the tax loopholes used by corporations and governments to build garbage incinerators (the investment tax credits and accelerated depreciation). The new "tax reform" bill was supposed to end these loopholes. According to Essex County Executive Peter Shapiro, who wants the incinerator in Ironbound, "The successful lobbying effort of Congressmen Rodino and Gaurini has removed an obstacle that threatened the success" of the garbage incinerator.

Besides paying higher federal taxes to pay for the money lost through these loopholes, we will be forced to pay in other ways. Two new bond issues, passed last November, will be paid back by using our state taxes. We will pay higher city property taxes for the increased cost to dispose of the ash that is contaminated with dioxin and heavy metals. The ash will have to be placed in special landfills. And we will be forced to pay higher state and federal taxes for the millions spent for a partial clean up of some of the toxic chemicals buried at the proposed site of the incinerator.

Thus far, elected officials in government have closed their eyes and tried to play dumb regarding the costs of incinerators to the taxpayer.

The **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste** will continue to lead the fight against the incinerator. If you can help set up a speaking engagement for the Committee with your community, school or church group, call 589-4668. The Committee has an excellent slide show that will make the perfect program for your next meeting.

Congratulations

to

Elizabeth & Michael Mazzeo
on the birth of their son
Michael Geroge
on December 18, 1985.

Elizabeth volunteers as a translator for ***Ironbound Voices.***

Happy 1986 to all 3 of you!

In Memory Of

Anna Nedza

Ironbound residents will miss Anna Nedza who died Dec. 29.

Anna worked hard to make Ironbound a safer, healthier, better place to live. She was a friendly, caring and determined person.

Anna was an active member of the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste, which is working to stop pollution from toxic chemicals in our neighborhood. Anna came to meetings, demonstrations, public hearings and celebrations. Even on last minute notice, she would make the effort to be there because she knew the importance of people working together. She was also active in the fight to stop the airplane noise, and in zoning battles to protect our homes from irresponsible companies.

Rain, snow or shine, Anna could be counted on to join with her neighbors who are working to improve this community.

Scientist Says Stop Garbage Incinerators

The New Jersey Grass Roots Environmental Organization (GREO) recently sponsored a visit by Dr. Paul Connett. Dr. Connett is a biochemist who teaches at the St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York. He recently attended an international meeting about the dangers of dioxin. While in New Jersey, Dr. Connett spoke to GREO members in Sayreville, held a press conference in Morristown, and lectured doctors and other health professionals at the University of Medicine and Dentistry. Here are some excerpts from Dr. Connett's talk to GREO:

I got involved in the issue of garbage incinerators about 10 months ago when I discovered that they wanted to build a garbage incinerator near my home. I began to read about and study dioxin. The more I read, the more alarmed I became. The information that I have found should bring the construction of garbage incinerators to a grinding halt.

We are being railroaded into a quick fix soltuion with garbage incinerators that's not worth the effort going into it, because it isn't really a solution at all.

First of all, we've got to call things by their correct names. They call them "resource recovery facilities," even though they waste resources. I call them garbage incinerators, because that's what they do. They burn garbage.

I had a call last night from a woman who lives near an incinerator in Auburn, Maine. There is a farm located near the incinerator where milk production from the cows has dropped dramatically. The cattle are developing sores. Four of the best milk cows had to be killed, and an autopsy showed that their kidneys and livers were full of cysts. People in the area are getting a lot of rashes on their arms and backs. A 24 year old woman who lives near the incinerator has been given 3 months to live. The doctors don't know why her heart and lungs are giving out. Two of her children were born with birth defects. Her healthy child was born before she moved to Auburn. This incinerator was built to burn the garbage from 6 towns, but because it was losing money, they now burn garbage from 27 towns, and they are still losing $1.2 million a year.

Stories like this are very similar to reports from around the world of what is taking place around hazardous waste incinerators. Hazardous wastes will be dumped into these garbage incinerators. It is already happening.

You've all heard the arguments made by the garbage disposal industry in favor of garbage incinerators. They say we are running out of space in landfills, and that landfills are leaching (leaking) toxic material into the groundwater. They say we will generate electricity and steam which will help pay for these incinerators. They say there are state and federal subsidies to help build them (at least until the end of the year). They say it is a simple solution to the garbage problem. Instead of putting garbage into plastic sacks and putting it into a hole, we're going to put it into a burner instead.

Here are some of the arguments **against** garbage incinerators.

First of all, even if we spend hundreds of millions of dollars on garbage incinerators, we will still need landfills. A third of the weight of the garbage will be ash, which has to be dealt with. Add to this the materials which cannot be burned anyway. A big problem is that the ash is going to be ***extremely toxic***. What the industry is saying is that they"ll build the incinerator, and leave the problem of what to do with this toxic ash to the local community. This is going to be very expensive and it could be very dangerous.

With garbage incinerators, we will be getting air pollution instead of pollution in the groundwater.

We will **waste** resources, not recover them, because there will be no incentive to recycle or reduce the amount of garbage.

Burning mixed garbage is incredibly rough on equipment. There are constant breakdowns in existing incinerators. There's one incinerator located near me that has been operating less than a year where the taxpayers have to pay $138,000 to replace the smoke stacks because the acid gas has eaten them away.

A garbage incinerator produces a headache for an engineer, because it is not one constant fuel you burn. Here you will be burning different kinds of things every day, which will vary from season to season. It is arrogant for these corporations to think they can build a magic box which will control all the chemical reactions from all these kinds of garbage and not have chemicals that pollute the air coming out of the smokestack.

At one incinerator in Hampton, Virginia, they had the 3rd highest emission rate for dioxin in the world. Government officials said if you change the operating conditions of this incinerator, it will lower the dioxin levels. So they spent $100,000 to fix up this incinerator, and instead the dioxin levels went **up**! This is solid proof to me, that these people don't know what they are doing.

There will be inadequate or no screening of the garbage. This means that ***the garbage incinerator will rapidly become a toxic waste incinerator,*** because toxic chemicals will be mixed in with regular garbage. This is already happening. There are already so many hazardous chemicals in this country waiting to go into a garbage incinerator. If we don't stop the incinerators now, we will have a tough job stopping them once they're operating.

In one incinerator I visited in New Hampshire, they were burning 108 tons of garbage a day. The truck dumped the garbage on the floor. There was no screening whatsoever. It was all burned together. I also checked to see how carefully they handled the ash, because if the incinerator is working properly all the heavy metals, the nasty chemicals, and dioxins would be on the ash. This ash should be tested. In Europe they put it in steel containers and bury it in special places. But in the incinerator I saw, they just poured water on the ash, took it and dumped it in a regular landfill. Since the ash is wet, it begins to leak into the groundwater immediately.

Now I ask you, are we expected to believe that the same people who dumped hazardous wastes in our landfills and made them toxic are suddenly going to reform, and not try to put hazardous wastes in our garbage incinerators?

Some people are blindly impressed by

continued on p.2



Dirt Club Benefit Concert

Johnny Dirt (right) from the Dirt Club in Bloomfield presents a check for $2300 to John Lax (center) from Greenpeace and Arnold Cohen from the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste. The money was raised at benefit concerts held Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 at the Dirt Club. Greenpeace is an international environmental organization that has worked closely with the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste during the last 3 years.

First Meeting of 1986!

Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste

with special guest speaker:

Dr. Paul Connett

scientist & expert on garbage incinerators

&

the drawing of winners from the Raffle Drive!

Tues. Jan 21 7:30 P.M.

Wolff Memorial Presbyterian Church

Ann St. & Wilson Ave.

Call 589-4668 for rides.

More Than 100 Attend Signs Of Hope Conference

"Most people are taught to think that there aren't any alternatives to the present way of doing things. Certain forces in our society want people to think that things **cannot** change. But we are responsible for making change happen."

These were the challenging words of Rev. Sheila Collins at the beginning of the ***Signs of Hope Conference*** held Nov. 23 at Kilburn Memorial Presbyterian Church. Concerned people from churches of all denominations and from community organizations throughout Essex County met to continue working to solve serious problems in their communities. The Conference was sponsored by the Metropolitan Ecumenical Ministry (M.E.M.). Rev. David Burgess, from St. Stephan's Church in Ironbound is executive director of M.E.M.

Four Signs of Hope Task Forces have been active during the year. The Toxic Waste Task Force has taken a strong stand against the proposed garbage incinerator in Ironbound. The Task force has produced a videotape about the garbage incinerator and has been working to let other churches in Essex County know about the health dangers and costs of garbage incinerators.

The Housing Task Force is working to get more construction of permanent housing for low income people. The Task Force demonstrated in Trenton, asking that at least 1/4 of the State's $800 million surplus funds be used to build housing that poor and working people can afford. The Task Force is also supporting the Tenant Initiative Campaign in Newark to get a stronger rent control law. Rapidly rising rents are one of the causes for homelessness, because people are forced out of their homes when they can't pay the rent.



The Signs of Hope Conference held Nov. 23 in Newark brought together members of many churches and community groups to plan actions to help solve the problems of lack of affordable housing, toxic wastes, poor education, and unemployment.

The Unemployment Task Force is contacting local churches to see if there are jobs available for area young people.

Father Jack Maloney from St. Patrick's Cathedral said that churches should be involved in community issues in order to improve the communities. Father Maloney said this could not be done by individual churches, but only through an ecumenical movement - churches of all religions working together through an organization like Metropolitan Ecumenical Ministry. "The Church should get involved in issues like these," Father Maloney said. "We will have the power to make things better in our communities when we have enough people involved."

Larry Hamm, from the Peoples' Organization for Progress, said people should get involved and take a stand on issues like jobs, good schools, lack of housing and the pollution caused by toxic wastes.

Each Signs of Hope Task Force has people who are willing to come and speak to your church, school or parent group. To arrange a program or to get involved with a ***Signs of Hope Task Force***, call Rev. David Robinson, 623-9259.

Statewide Housing Group Plans Action

"We called it a housing crisis 20 years ago. The only difference now is that things are worse."

Mary Lou Petite, from the League of Women Voters, was the first speaker at the ***Right To Housing***'s statewide planning meeting held Dec. 7 at St. Michael's Chapel in Piscataway. More than 80 people from all sections of the state, including Ironbound residents, attended.

"There is a lot of talk about the mistakes which were made in our public housing programs. But look at all the mistakes in the military - overspending, inflated prices. Do they cancel our military programs? No! Our public housing programs were very successful in providing homes for hundreds of thousands of people who needed them," Ms. Petite said. "Today the government lacks a committment to housing."

"So we have a huge increase in the number of people with no place to live. You can see it in our suburbs and in our cities. Now it is an emotional issue. But we need solutions - legislation and action that will do something."

"Gentrification, middle and high income people moving into an area, is increasing the numbers of homeless people, because they cannot afford to live in luxury condominiums or rehabbed apartments."

"New Jersey hasn't been noted for action on the housing issue. That's why it makes me hopeful to be here with ordinary people who are not politicians or developers," Ms. Petite said.

Joan Driscoll and Reverend Eric Duff, coordinators for the ***Right To Housing*** meeting, reminded people of the very successful demonstration which the group held October 23 in Trenton. A slideshow of the demonstration was shown. Colorful banners and signs from the demonstration were hung around the walls of St. Michael's Chapel.

Several speakers talked about victories and successes they had in dealing with the lack of housing that people can afford.

Speakers from the Camden Shelter Coalition talked about people moving into empty buildings which had been abandoned by the owner, and became property of the city of Camden. When the city tried to evice the people who moved in, so many supporters gathered in front of the house that the city officials decided not to evict the people. Because of the strong support for people moving into the abandoned buildings, the city agreed to give many of the buildings to the group for no cost. The city also gave the group some money to help people fix up the houses.

In Trenton, Father Brian McCormick from Better Community Housing, said his group has been able to fix up 54 houses. "The important thing is to keep the banks out of it completely," Father McCromick said. Materials, labor and money are donated to the program. Because the banks are not involved, people do not have to pay high mortgage interest rates, so mortgage payments are affordable to those with low incomes. People who apply for homes must spend time working on repairing them.

Norbert Harold from the Jersey City Tenants Committee, said, "Rising rents are creating more and more homeless people." He said new housing that was built in Jersey City during the last 4 years was too expensive for most poor and working people. "Mayor McCann wanted poor people to move out of the City," Mr. Harold said. "He was always talking about survival of the fittest. One of the first things he did was to attack rent control, by passing vacancy decontrol. This meant that for any apartment when someone moved, the landlord could raise the rent as high as he or she wanted." Mr. Harold said tenants organized a petition drive and collected 24,000 signatures in 30 days to force Jersey City officials to stop vacancy decontrol. The tenants organization then became very active in voting Mayor McCann out of office last spring. Because of this, there will be more apartments for working class and poor people, and less homelessness in Jersey City.

Right To Housing is planning to hold local actions all around the state on January 15, Martin Luther King day.

Working For Peace On Earth

"We live in a country where the government is spending $300 billion a year for weapons. Yet we have thousands of people who have no place to live and not enough to eat. That money could build enough homes for everyone. One tenth of that money could clean up all the pollution. Instead that money is being used to produce weapons to kill people, and to give money to keep dictators in power, or to stop a country from having a revolution to make things better for their people, like Nicaragua. That $300 billion is our tax money. We have to speak out and tell our government we don't want them invading countries and carrying on undeclared wars all around the world. We want that money used for things which will make our lives better."

The speaker was Nancy Zak, a member of the **Ironbound Peace Education Project (IPEP).** The occasion was the ***Peace on Earth Spaghetti Dinner***, held Dec. 13 at Trinity Reformed Church. More than 100 people attended the event, which was sponsored by ***IPEP.***

Dr. Mark Lavietes, vice president of Physicians for Social Responsibility, was a guest speaker at the dinner. Physicians for Social Responsibility is part of the group which received the 1985 Peace Prize. Dr. Lavietes emphasized the importance of people getting involved to change this government's policies. He criticized the proposed Star Wars program as a "waste of billions of dollars." He also criticized the plan to dock ships carrying nuclear bombs on Staten Island.

Joyce Cupoli, from the Archdiocese of Newark, began her talk by displaying sections of the **Peace Ribbon**. Individuals and groups from all around the country and the world made the Peace Ribbon sections. On August 4, thousands of people gathered in Washington, D.C. to tie the completed Peace Ribbon around the Pentagon (the headquarters of the military in this country). Mrs. Cupoli, the mother of 6 children, encouraged people to do whatever they could to work for peace. "Peace is not going to come automati-; cally," she said. "Lots of people have to get involved and lots of work has to be done. We've got to convince our government that what it is doing is wrong."

Families, teachers and friends of the 13 students whose posters were chosen as winners in the ***Peace Poster Contest*** attended the Spaghetti Dinner to see the students receive their prizes. 259 students from 6 different schools participated, including students from first grade through high school.

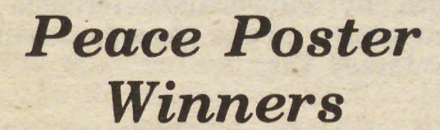
Many volunteers helped to cook and serve the delicious spaghetti dinner. The **Ironbound Peace Education Project** wishes to thank all of them, along with the main cooks, Roni Faulkner and Marie McErlean, the salad maker, John Dillon, and Texeira's Bakery for donating the beautiful "Peace on Earth" cake.

Rev. David Burgess from St. Stephan's Church in Ironbound praised the winning students, their families and their teachers. Rev. Burgess said it was "a crime to be spending so many billions of dollars on weapons when so many people are suffering from poverty, homelessness and hunger."



Peace Poster Contest Winners

Students from six schools participated in the Peace Poster Contest sponsored by the Ironbound Peace Education Project. Students from first grade up to high school seniors were among the winning students pictured above.



Peace Poster Winners

Jose Mendes & Anna Maria Resende
East Side High School

Jennifer Holloway
Blessed Sacrament School

Leanne Rawa, Susana Barros, Rene Couto, Jacqueline Naranjo, & Rosa Maria Calado
St. Casimirs School

Danny Lopes
Ironbound Interparochial School

Eneida Andujar & Twanda Watson
Our Lady of Good Counsel High School

Arzu Odaman & Nicole Valeri
St. Lucy's School





In Memory Of

Mrs. Elvira Rodrigues

Ironbound residents lost a strong voice for the people with the death of Mrs. Elvira Rodrigues in December.

Mrs. Rodrigues was regional vice president of the Portuguese American Congress. She was a key person in their citizenship drive which resulted in 800 people becoming new citizens on Dec. 21. Mrs. Rodrigues was also the founder of the Portuguese American Scholarship Foundation, which gives financial help to young people to get an education.

Mrs. Rodrigues spoke against the construction of a garbage incinerator in Ironbound at the first big meeting in March of 1984 at Our Lady of Fatima Church. At that meeting, she said, "What we want in Ironbound is more parks, less pollution. Give us clean air, safe streets, new parks, better schools, and less garbage." Mrs. Rodrigues continued as an active member of the fight against the garbage incinerator. She worked hard in many ways to improve this neighborhood. We will miss her.

At Sea continued:

senior citizens - people of all ages joined in this very successful day of protest.

On October 3, 1983, the **ICATW** held a Press Conference announcing that their Alternative Siting Commission was formed. In January, 1984, they held a Public Hearing at Bayonne City Hall. Two months later they published their report which included strict regulations about where toxic waste facilities should be put - not in highly populated areas like this.

All the work and organizing has paid off! In September 1985, At Sea filed for bankruptcy. Their office at Port Newark has been closed. The efforts of thousands of New Jersey residents, led by the people of Ironbound, have been successful. Who says you can't fight City Hall and win!

Novas Provas de Perigo à Saúde de Incineração

por Bob Cartwright

Dois grupos principais do ambiente publicaram recentemente reportagens pedindo o fim da construção de grandes fornos de incineração de lixo.

O Environmental Planning Lobby de Albany, New York, emitiu uma reportagem de 119 páginas chamado "O Impacto Financeiro e de Ambiente do Incineração de Lixo." A reportagem diz que a pressa de construir incineradores de lixo uma "dicisão imprudente, uma que prejudica a saúde publica e as nossas taxas." A reportagem discreve os incineradores como uma tecnologia experimental a desenvolver, que cria "significante quantidade de poluição do ar incluindo dioxidos."

"Estamos muito preocupados que as municipalidades estão meramente a trocar problemas de contaminação de àgua causada por lixo atirado lá, por problemas de poluição de ar causados por incineradores," diz Judith Enck, diretora executiva da organização em New York.

A reportagem tambem nota que incineração não ilimina a necessidade de deitar o lixo à àgua. A cinza que fica depois da incineração pesa tanto como 30 a 40% do lixo inicial. Tambem, esta cinza é considerada despejo perigoso na California. Pesquisadores em Massachusetts tambem concluiram que a cinza devia ser considerada 'perigosa.' Um incinerador em Glen Cove, New York, disse que talvez, tenham de fechar, se um sitio para despejar a cinza não seja encontrado.

Outro grupo nacional do ambiente, o Environmental Defense Fund, mudou a sua opinião para opor-se à incineração de lixo, dizendo que o investimento de dinheiro publico em incineradores "parece a ser um uso imprudente dos dolares dos pagadores de taxas."

Mais provas dos problemas de poluição, vindos dos incineradores de lixo, apareceram no Canadá. "A mostras do ar do incinerador de lixo municipal em Hamilton, Ontario indicaram um nivel de dioxido mais alto que premitido." Suspeita-se que o dioxido resulta da queima de algumas qualidades de plástico.

Na Alemanha Ocidental, um livro recem publicado por dois scientistas do Instituto de Heidelberg de Pesquisa de Energia e Ambiente, diz que diversos incineradores em Hamburgo tiveram de fechar por não terem onde despejar a cinza, que está contaminada por dioxido. Os scientistas concluiram que a melhor maneira de nos desfazermos do lixo é uma combinação de usar lixo de novo, fazer adubo de lixo e a separação de materiais (separação de vidro, metal, plástico, papél, etc.) Eles concluiram que o uso destes métodos pode reduzir a necessidade de deitar o lixo à àgua, tanto como a incineração. Eles encontraram que pessoas na Alemanha opunham-se à incineração e suportavam a ideia de usar lixo como aluminio e vidro de novo.

As provas continuam de que a incineração de lixo é a maneira errada de lidar com lixo, e que incineração até causa mais problemas financeiros e de saúde do que resolve.



Grupo Para Moradias Planejam Ação

"Chamamos isto de crise em moradias vinte anos atrás. A único diferenca agora é que a situação está pior."

Mary Lou Petite, da Liga de Eleitores Feminino, foi a primeira oradora na conferência de ***Direitos à Residencia*** realizada no dia 7 de Dezembro na capela de São Miguel em Piscataway. Mais de 100 pessoas de todas as secções do estado (incluindo o Ironbound) compareceram à reunião.

"Há muito que falar sobre os erros cometidos na administração do programa das residências públicas. Porem, olhem para os erros cometido pelos militares - despesas alem do orçamento, preços altos. Cancelam eles nosso programa militar? No! Nosso programa de residências públicas foi bem sucedido em prover moradias para centena de pessoas necessitadas," Mrs. Petite disse. "Hoje, o governo não dá muita atenção à este programa."

"Assim sendo, hoje o número de pessoas que estão sem lugar para viver tem aumentado significativamente, como pode ser observado nos subúrbios e nas cidades. Agora, isto já é um problema emocional que exige solução, legislação, e ação; algo tem que ser feito."

"A gentrificação esta aumentando o número de pessoas sem casa, por que eles não podem pagar para viver em apartamentos luxuosos ou condominios. Nova Jersey não tem sido destacado em ações concernente ão problemas residenciais. Isto é que me fal feliz de estar aquí falando com pessoas comuns os quais não são politicos ou proprietários."

Priscilla Kirk e Evaline Vine, da **União do Abrigo de Camden**, falaram sobre pessoas mudarem para edificios vazios, abandonados pelos donos e agora pertencentes à cidade de Camden. Quando a cidade tentou expulsar as pessoas que viviam naqueles prédios, tiveram que desistirem visto que os moradores tiveram suporte e apoio de muitas pessoas da area. Com o tempo, a cidade concordou em deixar aquelas pessoas viverem ali sem nenhum custo. Ainda, a cidade ajudou com algum dinheiro para que os prédios fossem consertados.

Em Trenton, Padre Brian McCormick da **Organização Melhores Casas Para A Comunidade**, disse que o grupo dele já ajudou concertar mais de 54 casas. "A coisa importante é manter os bancos fora de tudo. Materiais, trabalho e dinheiro, são provenientes de donações. Visto que os bancos não estão envolvidos, qualquer pessoa com baixa renda pode pagar pelas prestações. Um ponto importante é que as pessoas que fazem aplicações tem que gastar tempo nos reparos necessários.

Norbert Harold, do **Comitê dos Inquilinos de Jersey City**, disse, "O aumento das rendas está criando mais e mais pessoas sem lugar para viver." Ainda disse que as casas construidas ha 4 anos tem as rendas muito caras, além das possibilidades dos trabalhadores e das pessoas pobres. "Mayor McCann queria os pobres fora de Jersey City," Sr. Harold disse. "McCann sempre falava da sobrevivencia do mais forte. Uma das primeiras coisas que ele vez foi atacar o controle das rendas, por aprovar o descontrole dos apartamentos vazios. Isto quer dizer que para cada apartamento vazio, os senhorios podiam aumentarem o quanto quizerem."

Sr. Harold disse que os inquilinos organizaram e em 30 dias coletaram 24.000 assinaturas e obrigaram as autoridades a cancelarem esta prática. Os inquilinos ficaram muito ativos e nas últimas eleições colocaram McCann fora da prefeitura. Por causa disse, teremos mais apartamentos e menos pessoas desabrigadas em Jersey City.

Reunião

Ironbound Comité Contra Desperdicios Tóxicos

com o:

Dr. Paul Connett

O Dr. Connett é um bioquímico que ensina na Universidade de St. Lawrence em N.Y. Ele recentemente raz parte duma conferencia internacional sobre os perigos de dioxin.

21 de Jan.
Terça-feira
7:30 P.M.
Wolff Memorial Church
106 Ann St. (esquina com Wilson Ave.)

Para mais informação chame 589-4668.

Em Memória De

Mrs. Elvira Rodrigues

Com a morte no passado mês de Dezembro de Dona Elvira Rodrigues predeu a comunidade do Ironbound uma das suas vozes **mais fortes.**

A senhora **Rodrigues** era um dos vice-presidentes regionais do Congresso Luso-Americano (PAC). Foi uma das principais **impulsionadoras** da Campanha de Natrualização que resultou em 1220 pessoas se tornarem cidadãs no passado dia 21 de Dezembro. Foi também fundadora da Fundação Escolar Luso-Americana, que concede ajuda financeira a jovens estudantes.

A senhora Rodrigues falou contra a construção do queimador de lixos no Ironbound no decorrer da reunião realizada em Março de 1984 no Salão da Igreja de Nossa Senhora de Fátima. Disse ela então: "O que queremos no Ironbound é mais parques de recreio e menos poluição. Dêem-nos ar puro, ruas com mais segurança, novos parques mais e melhores escolas, e menos lixo."

A senhora Rodrigues foi sempre um membro activo na luta contra a construção do incinerador. De muitas formas, ele trabalhou ardorosamente para melhorar a comunidade. Por isso, a sua falta será muito sentida.

O Povo Venceu A Companhia 'At Sea Incineration'

Os residentes venceram a "At Sea Incineration'. Esta companhia recentemente anunciou que estaba falida.

"Estou convencido que o povo organizado faz a diferença," disse Vic De Luca da Ironbound Community Corporation. "Levou-nos tempo mas mas vencemos."

Há 5 anos o **Ironbound Comité Contra Desperdicios Tóxicos (ICATW)** lutou contra a proposta da 'At Sea Incineration' para construir um campo de depositos com capacidade para 75 milhões de galões em Newark. Esses depositos seriam cheios com os productos quimicos mais tóxicos jamais inventados: dioxina, PCB's, gases que actuam sobre o sistema nervoso, e pesticidas. As 220.000 toneladas anuais de lixo tóxico seriam misturadas e processadas numa fabrica em Newark e depois levadas para o mar para serem queimadas. O governo federal ajudou a companhia a construir os navíos e agora perdirá milhões de dolares.

A luta contra a 'At Sea' começou em 1980, quando um engenheiro que vivia no Ironbound acidentalmente teve conhecimento deste projecto ao ler um artigo num jornal de engenharia quimica. O artigo dizia que a construção estaba planeada para Setembro de 1980. Os membros da **ICATW** telefonaram para as agencias de protecção do ambiente - D.E.P. e E.P.A. Ambas as agencias disseram que não tinham conhecimento do projecto. Isso quiz dizer que algo estranho se estava a passar porque para a 'At Sea' iniciar a construção dos tanques seria necessário ter o consentimento dos governos do estado e do governo federal.

Os membros da ICATW então telefonaram directamente para a sede da companhia em Connecticut. A companhia concordou atendir a uma reunião. Foi esta realizada em 9 de Agosto de 1980 com o vice-presidente da 'At Sea'- Senhor Donald Henry. Além dos residentes do Ironbound outros como o Comité de Segurança e Saúde no Trabalho (COSH) estiveram presentes. Todos concordaram que o projecto seria perigoso para os residentes do Ironbound e para as áreas vizinhas. Mas agora os residentes do Ironbound tinham mais informação sobre o projecto.

Os membros do ICATW então começaram a trabalhar. "Quando começamos nunca pensei que tanta gente e organizações tomassem um partido neste assunto," disse Arnold Cohen do ICATW. "Mas quando lançamos a questão e demas ao povo conhecimento do caso, este decidiu juntar-se e lutar."

"Sabiamos mais que ninguém da proposta. Há alguns anos Bob Cartwright do ICATW debateu um executivo da 'At Sea' numa discussão entre os jornalistos que compoem os editorias da Asbury Park Press. Bob ganhou o debate," disse o Sr. Cohen. "A investigação que fizemos e o que sabiamos acêrca do plano da At Sea. Valeu-nos o respeito dos serviços de saude dos representantes politicos da imprensa bem como do povo do Ironbound e das áreas vizinhas. Sabiamos o que deviamos pergutnar e sabiamos quando nos estavam a levar. Impressionamos o pessoal da rádio e da televisão. Sabiamos mais da 'At Sea' que ninguém."

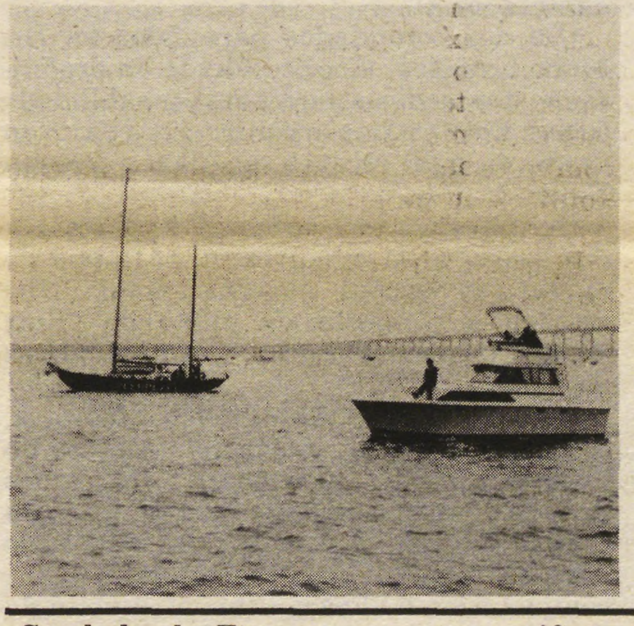


Durante os meses de Novembro e dezembro foram realizadas sessões de esclarecimento em Newark e Elizabeth. Um bombeiro de Elizabeth levantou-se e explicou que se houvesse um incendio na fabrica nenhum dos departamentos seria capaz de o apagar. Um chaufer explicou que que devido às horas extraordinários que seriam necessárias o perigo de acidentes aumentaria envolvendo o lixo tóxico transportado para a fabrica.

"Cada individuo contribuiu," disse Arnold Cohen. "Bombeiros, conductores, enfermeiras, professores, padres, secretarias, pessoas aposentadadas - todos ajudaram a ganhar a batalha."

Logo a seuir, apareceram artigos nos jornais Star Ledger e Asbury Park Press.

Os oficiais dos Serviços de Saúde do Condado de Hudson tomaram uma atitude contra a proposta de 1981. (Por outro lado, os oficias dos Serviços de Saude do



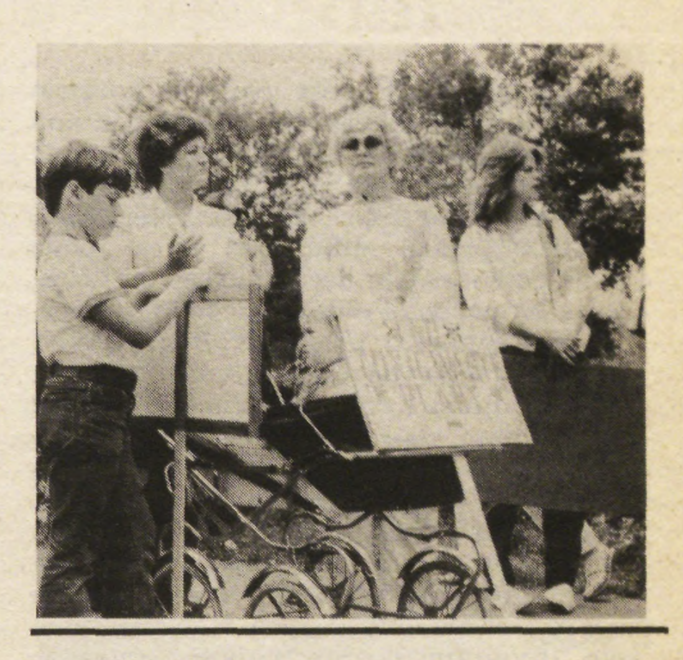
Condado de Essex nunca se manifestaram). Os oficais de saúde do condado de Hudson tambem ajudaram os presidentes das camaras os vereadores e os representantes do condado a tomarem uma atitude contra a 'At Sea.'

A ICATW enviou um caderno de informações a milhares de residentes de New Jerey fazendo-os saber dos perigos resultantes do projecto da 'At Sea.'

Em Abril de 1981, fez-se uma demonstração no local da Chemical Contral em Elizabeth, no aniversário da grande explosão de lixo tóxico que ali aconteceu. Esta demonstração levou tambem os perigos da At Sea aos jornais e à televisão.

A 10 de Junho de 1981 a At Sea deu uma reunião no clube Espana no Ironbound, de natureza privada, só por convite. Os residentes do Ironbound ficaram zangados por não terem sido convidados. Todos os representantes politicos foram convidados. Os residentes e os seus simpatizantes fizeram uma demonstração à porta do clube. Por isso permitiram a entrada. A presença de todos fez mudar o rumo da reunião. Em vez de dar apoio a 'At Sea' os politicos tiveram de se virar contra a proposta.

Na verdade o caso começou a aquecer un Julho de 1982, quando a Coligação de Bayonne Contra Locais Tóxicos se juntou à luta contra a 'At Sea.' Membros do grupo juntaram-se aos residentes do Ironbound em 3 inqueritos publicos acerca dos planos de At Sea. Milhares de pessoas protestaram contra o projecto da At Sea. Mas o governo não deu ouvidos. Por isso os residentes do Ironbound decidiram formar a sua própria comissão, organizar as suas reuniões para o publico, publicar o seu próprio relatório com as suas conclusões acerca de instalações de lixo tóxico tais como a da 'At Sea.'



Em Junho de 1983, a grande Coligação da Baia de Newark, a qual incluía grupos de Jersey City, Bayonne, Newark, Kearny e Elizabeth, a lutar contra a 'At Sea' organizou uma demonstração enorme. Foi chamada "Reanimação Para Sobrevivência." Começou com centenas de pessoas a desfilar pela rua principal de Bayonne numa parada que foi até a um parque situado na margem de Baia de Newark. Pela água os barco 'Clearwater' e muitos barcos privados pertencentes ao Bayonne Yacht Club juntaram-se ao protesto. Bandas de musica acompanharam a multidão a cantar, e muitos oradores falaram acerca dos perigos dos planos da 'At Sea.' Famílias com crianças, pessoas de todas as idades associaram-se a este muito bem sucedido dia de protesto.

A 3 de Outubro de 1983 a ICATW anunciar que a sua Comissão para locais alternativos foi formada. Em Janeiro, de 1984, houve uma audiência publica na camara municipal de Bayonne. Dois meses masi tarde publicaram o seu relatorio o qual incluía regulamentos rigorosos proíbindo a construção de facilidades para lixo tóxico em áreas como a nossa densamente provoadas.

Todo o trabalho e organização deram resultado! Em Setembro de 1985, a companhia 'At Sea' declarou bancarota. Fechou os seus escritórios no porto de Newark. Os esforços de milhares de residentes de New Jersey, liderados pelo povo do Ironbound, foram bem sucedidos. Quem diz que é impossivel lutar contra o governo e ganhar!



Trabalhar Para A Paz Na Terra

"Vivemos num país onde o governo dispende $300 biliões de dolares por ano em armas. E ainda há muitas pessoas que não têm casa para viver e comida suficiente. Com esses dinheiro poder-se-ia construir casas suficientes para todas essas pessoas. Um décimo desse dinheiro, podia limpar toda esta poluição que temos. Se esse dinheiro tosse dividido parcialmente por todas as pessoas, todo o homem, toda a mulher e criança teria $6000. Mas em vez disse, esse dinheiro está a ser usado para armas para matar pessoas. Esses $300 biliões é o dinheiro do nosso imposto. Temos que falar alto e claro e dizer ao nosso governo que não queremos que eles usem o nosso dinheiro para coisas as quais façam a nossa vida melhor. Não queremos que invadam outros países, e trazer guerras não declaradas, por toda a parte do mundo."

A discursante foi Nancy Zak, membro do **Projecto de Paz Educacional do Ironbound.** A ocasião foi Paz na Terra, jantar esparguete realizado no dia 13 de Dezembro na Igreja Trinity Reformed. Mais de 120 pessoas assistiram à jantar, patrocionado por o **Projecto de Paz Educacional.**



Os vencedores de Concurso Paz. 259 estudantes de 6 diferentes escolas participaram, incluindo estudantes desde a 1ª classe até ao ensino liceal.

Os Vencedores:

Jose Mendes & Anna Maria Resende
East Side High School

Jennifer Holloway
Blessed Sacrament School

Danny Lopes
Ironbound Interparochial School

Leanne Rawa, Rosa Marie Calado, Susana Barros, Jaqueline Naranjo, e Rene Couto
St. Casimir's

Eneida Andujar & Twanda Watson
Our Lady of Good Counsel High School

Arzu Odaman & Nicole Valeri
St. Lucy's

Um dos convidados para falar foi Dr. Mark Lavietes, vice-presidente da organização dos medicos para a responsabilidade social. Esta mesma organização, é parte do grupo da qual recebeu em 1985 o Prémio Nobel da Paz.

Dr. Laveites deu enfase á importancia das pessoas se envolverem no modo de mudar as acções governamentais. Ele criticou a proposta de plano do "Star Wars," responsavel pelo "gasto de biliões de dolares."

Joyce Cupoli, da Arquiocese de Newark, começou por falar, mostrando secções do "Peace Ribbon." Individuais e em grupos de toda a parte do mundo tizeram a secção "Peace Ribbon." A 4 de Agosto, milhões de pessoas unidas em Washington, D.C. completaram o "Peace Ribbon" á volta do Pentagon (o quartel general militar deste país).

Mrs. Cupoli, mãe de 6 filhos, encorajou as pessoas para fazerem aquilo que têm que fazer, em relação a uma mudança do governo. "A paz não vai vir automáticamente," disse ela. "Muitas pessoas terão de ser envolvidas e muito trabalho á que fazer, para convencer o governo a parar o que esta a fazer."

Familias, professores, e amigos de 13 estudantes que cujo os posteres foram os vencedores de Concurso Paz, acompanhado pelo jantar de esparguete, para verem os estudantes receberem os seus premios. 259 estudantes de 6 diferentes escolas participaram, incluindo estudantes desde a 1ª classe até ao ensino liceal.

O Padre David Burgess da igreja St. Stephan's no Ironbound nomeou o vencedor do concurso dos estudantes, suas familias e professores. Padre Burgess disse que era "um crime gastar tantos biliões de dolares em armas quando á tantas pessoas que sofrem de pobreza e fome."

Baile Para Parar O Queimador De Lixos

Residentes do Ironbound mostraram o seu espírito de luta anagariando dois mil dólares durante um almoço-dançante destinado a angariar fundos para combater a construção do queimador de lixos no Ironbound. Este esgundo acontecimento anual foi promovido pelo **Comité do Ironbound Contra Desperdicios Tóxicos.** Os participantes apreciaram a comida e a música e regozijaram ao demonstrar que um queimador de lixos nunca será construído no Ironbound.

O Comité agradeceu os esforços desenvolvidos por Arnold Cohen, Bob Cartwright e Madelyn Hoffman na luta contra a presença de produtos tóxicos no Ironbound. Cada um recebeu uma vistosa placa.

O Comité vai prosseguir na sua campanha de recolha de fundos com uma Rifa a 21 de Janeiro de 1986. Os bilhetes podem ser adquiridos em 95 Flemilng Ave. ou pelo telefone 589-4668.

Membros do Comité reuniram-se recentemente com residentes de Kearny que lutam também contra a construção dum queimador de lixos na sua cidade. A poluição do queimador de Kearny afectará Newark; por sua vez, a poluição do queimador de Newark afectará Kearny. Residentes das duas cidades conjugaram esforços para que em nenhum dos locais seja construído um queimador, uma vez que ele é não só caro como também perigoso e existem melhores maneiras de tratar o lixo, como por exemplo reciclagem.

Nós, os que pagamos impostos, passaremos a pagar mais centenas de milhões de dólares se tais queimadores forem construídos. Os congressistas Rodino e Guarini apoiaram recentemente no Congresso uma lei que continua a favorecer os grandes industriais, concedendo-lhe abatimento de impostos na construção de queimadores de lixo. Isto quando se esperava que nova legislação acabasse com certos privilégios.

Além de termos de pagar impostos mais altos em virtude desses privilégios e concessões especiais, teremos ainda de pagar mais doutras maneiras. A emissão de acções especiais, aprovada em Novembro, será paga com os impostos que pagamos ao estado. Pagaremos impostos mais altos à cidade em virtude da despesa tida com o despejo das cinzas e metais do incinerador. E seremos ainda obrigados a pagar impostos mais altos ao estado de New Jersey e ao governo federal em virtude da despesa tida com a limpeza de produtos químicos e tóxicos actualmente existentes no local onde se propõe erguer o queimador de lixos.

Até aqui, as entidades eleitas para o governo têm fechado os olhos e fazem-se despercebidas quanto à população ter de pagar impostos mais altos.

O **Comité do Ironbound Contra Desperdicios Tóxicos** continuará na sua luta contra o queimador de lixos. Pessoas interessadas em ajudar, organizando conferências ou palestras na sua localidade, igreja ou escola, poderão telefonar para 589-4668

Victoria en la Batalla Encontra At Sea Incineration

Los residentes del Ironbound han ganado la batalla encontra del "At Sea Incineration". La compañia anunció banca rota recientemente.

"Estoy convencido que cuando un grupo de personas se organizan, ellos pueden hacer la diferencia," dijo Vic De Luca del Ironbound Community Corporation. "Nos tomo bastante tiempo pero les vencimos."

Por 5 años, el **Comite Encontra Desperdicios Tóxicos del Ironbound** peleó encontra el contrato porpuesto por el "At Sea Incineration" para construir un tanque de 75 millones de galones en Newark. Estos tanques hubiesen sido llenados de las quimicas mas peligrosas que se han creado, incluyendo: dioxin, PCB, gases y desperdicios de pesticidas. Las 220,000 toneladas acumuladas al año iban a ser ligadas y procesadas en sus facilidades en Newark y despues llevadas al mar. El gobierno federal ayudo a la corporación a hacer los botes y ahora perderan millones de dolares.

La pelea en contra el "At Sea" empezo en el 1980, cuando un inginiero que viva en el Ironbound accidentalmente encontro, que habia un contrato, cuando estaba leyendo un articulo en el periodico de quimicas y enginiero. El articulo decia que la construcción comenzaria en Sept. 1980. Miembros del **Comite Encontra Desperdicios Tóxicos del Ironbound (ICATW)** llamaron a la Protección de Ambiente federal (EPA) y al Departamento de la Protección de Ambiente del estado (DEP). Los dos agencias dijeron que no sabian nada sobre el projecto. Esto decia que algo oscuro sucedia porque para una corporación para construir un edificio para tanques de quimicas necesitaba el apruebo del estado y el gobierno federal.

El **ICATW** entonces llamo a "At Sea" directamente a sus oficinas en Connecticut. La compañia acordó en una discusión. Esta fue en Agosto 9, 1980, con el ejecutivo vice-presidente de la compañia, Donald Henry. En addición con la gente del Ironbound, miembros del Comite de Seguridad Ocupacional y Salud (COSH) tambien atendieron. Todos acordaron que el proyecto seria peligroso para los residentes del Ironbound y las areas que nos abarcan. Pero, ahora los residentes del Ironbound tenian mas información acerca del projecto.

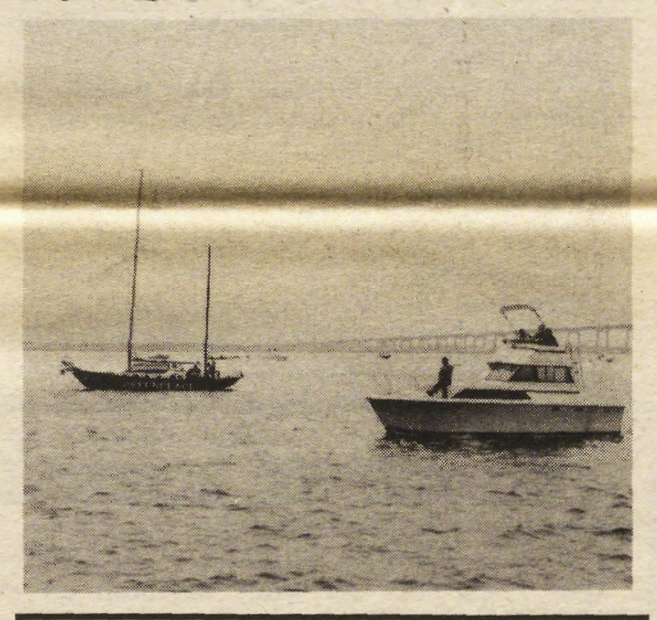
Miembros del **ICATW** fueron a trabajar. "Cuando nosotros comenzamos, yo nunca pense que tanta gente y organizaciones estuviesen de acuerdo con este tema," dijo Arnold Cohen, miembro del Comite. "Pero cuando nosotros comenzamos a trabajar, nosotros le dimos a la gente la información correcta, y ellos decidieron a ayudarnos en la pelea."

"Nosotros sabiamos mas de su contrate que alguna otra persona. Unos años atras Bob Cartwright, un miembro de nuestro grupo, debato un ejecutivo de 'At Sea'. Bob gano el debate," dijo Sr. Cohen. "La busqueda que hicimos y lo que nosotros sabiamos sobre el contrato nos gano respeto de los oficiales de salud, oficiales publicos, la prensa al igual que los residentes del Ironbound y las comunidades cercanas. Nosotros sabiamos que preguntas hacer y cuando nos daban basura. Nosotros impresionamos la radio y la televisión. Nosotros sabiamos mas que nadie del asunto."

Grupos fueron formados en Noviembre y Diciembre en Newark y Elizabeth. En Elizabeth un bombero se intereso y explico que si un fuego se formara ninguno ni todos los departamentos de bombero pudieran apagar este fuego. Un chofer de camión dijo que ellos eran obligados (mayormente) a trabajar horas extras y que esto seria mas peligrosas porque prodrian occurir accidentes con camiones cargando estos toxicos.

"Todos las personas contribueron," dijo Sr. Cohen. "Bomberos, choferes de camiones, enfermeras, maestros, curas, monjas, ministros, secretarias, y gente retiraras que nos ayudaron a ganar esta batalla."

Immediatamente articulos comenzaron a aparecer en el Star Ledger y la prensa de



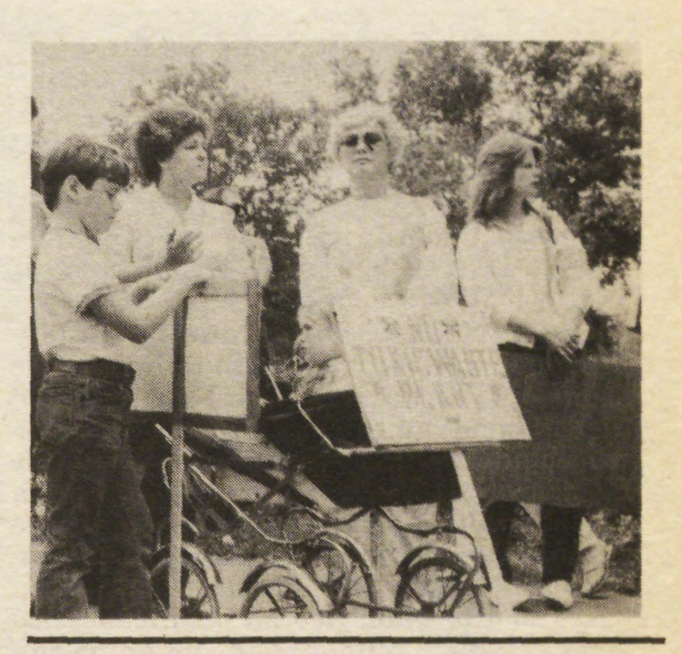
Asbury Park.

Los oficiales de salud de Hudson County votaron en contra del contrato en el 1981. (Mientras tanto los oficiales de salud de Essex County nunca dijeron nada). Los oficiales de salud de Hudson County ayudo en encontrar los governadores y representantes de la ciudad en Hudson County para que votaran en contra de "At Sea."

El **ICATW** envio paquetes de información a miles de los residentes de New Jersey para que todos tuviesen conocimiento de los peligros de "At Sea".

Par el fin de 1981, el Projecto de Salud del Ironbound, CUE(Coalición para un Elizabeth Unido), la escuela de leyes de Rutgers Universidad, N.J. PIRG, y el Sea Alliance de Essex County tuvieron todos envueltos. Ellos escribieron cartas a los editores de varios periodicos, distribuyeron 10,000 copias de papel de información acerca de At Sea, y consiguieron endorses de muchos otros grupos. Ellos diseñaron el diseño de un botón que fue copiado y distrubuido por los Estados Unidos. Esto trajo algun dinero para continuar el trabajo. Camisitas fueron diseñadas y vendidas tambien.

En Abril 21, 1981, una demostración tomo lugar en el aniversario y en el lugar en donde hubo la explosión del Chemical Control en Elizabeth. Como 200 de todo New Jersey atendieron. Esto trajo el tema



de "At Sea" en los periodicos y la TV.

En Junio del 1981, "At Sea" llamo una reunión en el Club España en el Ironbound. Este fue privado y por invitación solamente. La gente del Ironboun estaban tan furiosos que no los invitaron. Todos los politicos fueron invitados. Los residentes y sus ayudantes hicieron una demostración afuera del salón, que despues todos pudieron entrar. Este cambio toda la reunión. En vez de soportar a "At Sea" los politicos estuvieron obligados a votar encontra del contrato.

Esta tema comenzo a calentarse en Julio del 1982 cuando el **Comite de Bayonne Encontra los Tóxicos** se unio a la batalla de " At Sea". Miembros del grupo se unieron a los residentes a tres citaciones publicas sobre el contrato de "At Sea". Millones de personas hablaron encontra el contrato de "At Sea." Pero el gobierno no escuchaba. Entonces los residentes del Ironbound decidieron a formar su propia "Siting Commission", haciendo sus propios citaciones publicas, y publicar un reporte con las conclusiones sobre los tóxicos y las facilidades como 'At Sea.'

En Junio 1983, el **Greater Newark Bay Coalition,** que incluye grupos peleando contra 'At Sea' de Jersey City, Newark, Elizabeth, organizaron una gran demostración. Fue llamada "Revival For Survival" (Revive Por Sobrevive). Comenzo cuando cientos de personas marcharon en la calle principal de Bayonne en una parada hasta el parque en Newark Bay. Afuera del agua, Pete Seeger's bote 'Clearwater' y muchos botes privados del Bayonne Yacht Club se unieron en la protesta. Musicos talentosos dijieron la gente a cantar. Y mucha gente hablaron encontra de 'At Sea'. Familias con niños, envejecientos - muchas personas se unieron en el dia tan sucecibo de nuestra protesta.

En Octubre 3, 1983, el **ICATW** anunció publicamente que ellos tendiran 'Alternative Siting Commission.' En Enero 1, 1984, ellos tuvieron su citación publica en el City Hall de Bayonne. Dos meses mas tarde ellos publciaron sus reportes que incluyeron regulaciones estrictas sobre los toxicos y sus facilidades podrian ser puestas.

Todo este trabajo pago. En Septiembre 1985, 'At Sea' lleno para bancarota. Sus oficinas en el Puerto de Newark fueron cerradas. Cuando un grupo de personas se organizan, ellos pueden hacer la diferencia!

Nueva Evidencia de Peligros Para la Salud

por Bob Cartwright

Dos importantes grupos de desarrollo ambiental han publicado recientemente reportes llamando por un paro para la construcción de un enorme incinerador de basura.

El **Environmental Planning Lobby** de Albany, New York, hizo un reporte de 119 paginas llamado 'The Financial and Environmental Impact of Garbage Incineration." El reporte llama a la prisa de construir incineradores de basura, "Una decisión no sabia, una que pone en juego nuestra salud y nuestros taxes." El reporte describe incinerador de basura como un desarollo technologico no justificado, que crea "ciertas cantidades de contaminación en el aire incluyendo dioxin."

"Estamos sumamente preocupados que la municipalidad estan apenas cambiando agua debajo de la tierra contaminando, problemas por sitios llenos de aire contaminado causado por incineradores," dijo Judith Enck, directora ejecutiva de la organización de New York.

El reporte también enseña que incineración **no elimina la necesidad por 'landfills'**. Las cenizas que permanecen después de la incineración pesa alrededor del 30 a 40% de las basura original. En adición a esto, estas cenizas son consideradas desperdicios peligrosos en California. Investigaciones en Massachusetts han concluido tambien que las cenizas deben calificarse un "peligro". Un incinerador en Glen Cove, New York, dijeran que van a tener que cerrarlo sino encuentran un sitio apreopiado para hechar las cenizas.

Otro grupo de desarrollo ambiental, el **Environmental Defense Fund**, se puso en su sitio para oponerse al incinerador de basura, diciendo que la inverción del dinero del publico en incineradores ha parecido una "impurdencia de usar el dinero de los que pagan los taxes."

Mas pruebas de problemas de aire contaminado en incineradores ha aparecido en Canada. "Pruebas de aire del incinerador de Hamilton, Ontario, indicaron emiciones execivas de dioxin. Se sospecha que el dioxin es el resultado de plasticos quemados."

En Alemania Oxidental, un libro recientemente publicado por 2 cientificos del Insittuto de Energía y Desarrollo, dijo que algunos incineradores en Hamburg han tenido que cerrar porque no ha habido un lugar donde tirar las cenizas, que estan contaminadas con dioxin. Los cientificos llegaron a la conclusión que la mejor manera de salir del problema de la basura fué una combinación de 'recycling', compuesto, y una separación de cristal, metal, plastico, papel, etc. Ellos concluyeron que usando estos metodos reduce la necesidad de poner basura en tierra. Ellos encontraron que la gente en Alemania se oponen al incinerador y a prueban el 'recycling'.

La evidencia continua creciendo que incinerar basura es la manera peor que hay de bregar con basura y que la incineración actualmente causa más problemas financialmente y la salud del publico que resuelve.

Planes De Acción Estatales Por El Grupo De Vivienda

"Nosotros llamamos eso una crisis de vivienda 20 años atrás. La única diferencai ahora es que las cosas estan peores."

Mary Lou Petite, de la Liga de Mujeres Votantes, fué la primera oradora en la reunión estatal planeada por ***Los Derechos de Vivienda***, que se llevó acabo en Dic. 7, en la capilla San Miguel en Piscataway. Mas de 100 personas de todas las secciones del estado incluyendo los residentes de Ironbound, asistieron a la reunión.

"Allí hay mucho de que hablar sobre los errores los cuales fueron hechos en nuestros programas de vivienda pública. Pero mira todos los errores los cuales se han hecho en excesivos gastos militares, altos precios. Han cancelado ellos los programas militares? No! Nuestros programas de vivienda pública tuvieron buen éxito dando hogares para cientos de miles de personas que necesitaban," dijo Ms. Petite.

"Así, tenemos un enorme aumento en el número de personas sin lugar donde vivir. Tu puedes verlo en nuestros suburbios y en nuestras ciudades. Ahora son temas emocionales pero necesitamos soluciones, legislación y acción que pueda hacer algo."

"Gentrificación está aumentando el número de desamparados porque ellos no pueden darse el lugo de vivir en estos apartamentos rehabilitados o condominios lujosos."

"New Jersey no han sido notado por acción en el tema de vivienda. Por eso me hace sentir esperanzado de estar con personas capacitadas que no son politicos ni fomentadores."

Joan Driscoll y el Rev. Eric Duff cordinadores de la reunión para los **Derechos de Vivienda**, recordaron al pueblo del gran éxito en la demostración que se llevó a cabo en Oct. 23 en Trenton. Un programa de transparencia de la demostración fué tambien demostrada. Banderines de colores que se crearon para la demostración fueron colgado en las paredes de la capilla de San Miguel.

Varios oradores hablaron sobre victorias y sucesos que ellos utvieron en el tratado de la falta de vivienda que la gente puede proporcionar.

Priscilla Kirk y Evaline Vine, del Coalición de Refugios en Camden, habló sobre las personas que se han mudado a edificios vacios los cuales han sido abandonados por el casero y después a pasado a manos de la ciudad de Camden. Cuando la ciudad trató de desahuciar la gente que vivía allí, algunos partidarios se reunieron al frente de la casa que los oficiales de la ciudad decidieron no desahuciar a la gente. Porque el fuerte apoyo de la gente mudandose a los edificios vacios, la ciudad acordó dar algunos de estos edificios a la gente por ningun costo. La ciudad tambien le dió algún dinero para ayudar la gente a arreglar los apartamentos.

En Trenton, Padre Brian McCormick de Mayor Comunidad para Vivienda, dijo que su grupo ha estado dispuesto para arreglar 54 casas. "Lo importante es mantener los bancos fuera de ellos," dijo Padre McCormick. Materiales, trabajo y dinero ha sido donado al programa. Porque los bancos no envueltos, la gente no tiene que pagar altos intereses de hipoteca, asi que los pagos de hipoteca pueden proporcionarsele a personas de bajos ingresos. Personas que han solicitado casas deben emplear tiempo reparándolas.

Norbert Harold del Comité de Inquilinos de Jersey City dijo, "Aumentando las rentas se está creando mas y mas personas desamparadas." El dijo que las casas nuevas construidas en Jersey City durante los pasados 4 años, fueron muy caras para la mayoria de pobres y gente trabajadora. "El Alcalde McCann quiso que la gente pobre se mudara fuera de la ciudad," dijo Mr. Harold. "El siempre estuvo cogiendo supervivencia apropiada. Una de las cosas primeras que el hizo fué atacar el control de renta, pasando descontrol de vacantes. Quiere decir que para ningun apartamento que fuese rentado, el casero podia aumentar la renta tan alta como el o ella quisiera." Sr. Harold dijo que los inquilinos organizaron una petición y recogieron 24,000 firmas en 30 dias para obligar los oficiales de Jersey City a parar el descontrol de renta. La organización de inquilinos se pusieron muy activos votando para sacar fuera al alcalde McCann. Por esto, van a haber mas apartamentos para la gente pobre y trabajadora y menos desamparados en Jersey City.

Derechos De Vivienda está planeando llevar a cabo una acción local en cada condado del estado en Enero 16, el dia de Martin Luther King. Tambien estan trabajando para escribir hojas sueltas sobre **Derechos de Vivienda**, y estan organizando individuales, grupos religiosos y grupos que le apoyen.

Para mas información, llamar a Joan Driscoll, 352-2989, o 344-7210.



Trabajando Por La Paz En El Mundo

"Vivimos en un país donde el govierno está gastando $300 billones al año en armas. Y aún así tenemos miles de personas que no tienen donde vivir ni bastante para comer. Ese dinero podría construír casas para todos. Una fracción de ese dinero eliminará la contaminación del aire. Y si fuese dividido, cada hombre, mujer y niño le tocaría $6000. En vez de esto, el dinero se está usando para hacer armas. Ese dinero viene de nuestros impuestos. Es nuestro deber decirle al gobierno que se debe usar ese dinero construtivamente."

La oradora era Nancy Zak, miembra de **Proyecto de Educación de Paz del Ironbound.** La ocasión era la cena para la Paz en el Mundo, que tuvieron el 13 de diciembre en la iglesia llamada Trinity Reformed. Esta cena fue patrocinada por el Proyecto de Educación de Paz del Ironbound.

Uno de los oradores era el Doctor Mark Lavietes, vice-presidente de Médicos de New Jersey Para Responsibilidad Social. Esta organización es parte de otro grupo que recibió el Premio de Paz Nobel de 1985. El Doctor Lavietes dice que es muy importante que los ciudadanos traten de influir al gobierno.

Joyce Cupoli, del Diócesis de Newark mostró secciones de la ***Cinta de Paz.*** Muchos personas de diversos sitios en el mundo hicieron la cinta. El día 4 de agosto, miles de personas fueron a Washington, D.C. para extender al Cinta de Paz alrededor del Pentagon, el cuartel general del departamento militar.

La señora Cupoli, quien es madre de seis niños, anima a la gente a pider cambios del gobierno. "La paz no viene automáticamente," dijo ella. "Muchas personas tienen que tomar parte y trabajar par convincer nuestro gobierno que la paz es necesario."

Familias, maestros y amigos de 13 estudiantes que ganaron premios por sus carteles por la paz asistieron a la cena de spaghetti donde hablaron los oradores. 259 estudiantes de 6 escuelas locales participaron.

El Reverendo David Burgess de la iglesia St. Stephan's eligió los estudiantes, sus familias y sus maestros. El dijo que era "un crimen gastar billones del dólares en armas cuando hay tanta miseria en el mundo."



Los estudiantes que ganaron premios por sus carteles. 259 estudiantes de 6 escuelas locales participaron.

Los Ganadores

Jose Mendes & Anna Maria Resende
East Side High School

Danny Lopes
Ironbound Interparochial School

Arzu Odaman & Nicole Valeri
St. Lucy's School

Leanne Rawa, Rosa Marie Calado, Jazqueline Naranjo, Rene Couto & Susana Barros
St. Casimir's

Jennifer Holloway
Blessed Sacrament School

Eneida Andujar & Twanda Watson
Our Lady of Good Counsel High School

La Baile - Comida: Un Éxito!

Los residentes del Ironbound otra vez mostraron su espiritu de pelea recaudando más de $2000 para pelear la propuesta de la construcción del incinerador de basura en un Baile Comida. El segundo evento anual fué espansado por el **Ironbound Comité en Contra Desperdicios Tóxicos.** La gente se divertio mucho con el baile y comida y contestas de demostrar que el incinerador nunca será construido en Ironbound.

El Comité mostra su apreciación por el dedicado efuerza de Arnold Cohen, Bob Cartwright y Madelyn Hoffman en la lucha contra desperdicios tóxicos en el Ironbound. Cada uno se le dio una placa de merito.

El Comité continuará recaudando dinero con una rifa llenada acabo en Enero 21. Los boletos pueden ser obtenidos en el 95 de Fleming Ave. o llamando al 589-4668.

Los miembros del Comité recientemente se reunieron con residentes de Kearny quienes ademas estan peleando una propuesta de el incinerador de basura a construirse en su localidad. La polución del propuesto incinerador afectará a Newark y polución de Newark afectará a los residentes de Kearny. Los residentes de ambos pueblos trabajarán unidos para sersiorarse de que el incinerador no sea construido por el alto costo y peligor de ello y porque hay otras formas manejar nuestra basura (reusarla como abono).

Nosotros los pagadores de impuestos estaremos pagando millones de dolares por cualquiera de los incineradores a construirse. Los Congresistas Rodino y Guarini recientemente pasaron por el Congreso una medida que continua los excusas de impuestos usadas por corporaciones y gobierno para construir incineradores de basura. La nueva "reforma de impuestos" estaba supuesta terminar estas excusas.

Ademas de pagar altos impuestos federales para pagar por el dinero perdido atraves de estas excusas, nosotros estaremos esforzados a pagar de otras formas. Dos nuevas sucesiones de "bonds", aprobados en Noviembre, seran pagado usando nuestros impuestos estatal. Nosotros pagaremos impuestos más altos ala ciudad y al estado por el alto costo de desacerce de las cenizas del incinerador. Estas cenias estarán contaminadas con dioxin y pesados metales y nosotros estaremos forzados a pagar altos impuestos al gobierno federal y al estado por los millones gastados por una limpieza parcial de algunos de las quimicos toxicos enterrado en el lugar propuesto para el incinerador.

Hasta ahora, oficiales elegidos en el gobierno han cerrado los ojos y han estado haciendose los tontos sobre el costo que caera sobre los que pagamos impuestos.

El **Comité** continuará dirigiendo la lucha contra el incinerador. Si tu puedes ayudar a preparar un discurso para el comité en tu comunidad, escuela, o grupos religiosos llama el telefono 589-4668.

Ironbound Voices is a project of the Ironbound Information Center. We believe that all people are entitled to income, food, clothing, housing, education, and health care. We will print articles about groups taking steps to make this belief a reality. We will also publish information about your legal and social service rights. This issue was published with the help of:

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